China wants US to ease AI chip controls

China is pressing the United States to ease export controls on **chips critical for artificial intelligence (AI)**—especially high-bandwidth memory (HBM) chips—as part of ongoing trade negotiations ahead of a potential summit between Presidents Trump and Xi Jinping.[1] [2] [3] [4] [5] [6]

The export controls on advanced AI chips and components, particularly HBM, have been imposed by successive U.S. administrations to slow the development of China's AI and defense capabilities. Chinese companies such as **Huawei and SMIC** are especially impacted, as restrictions hamper their ability to develop and scale domestic AI chip production. HBM chips are essential because they enable rapid processing of data-heavy AI tasks, often paired with AI graphic processors (notably those from Nvidia).[2] [3] [4] [1]

Chinese officials have repeatedly emphasized that these controls represent a major obstacle for their technology sector and have called such restrictions an "abuse" that violates the rights of Chinese companies. Meanwhile, the U.S. regards HBM chip controls as one of the "single biggest constraints" on China's ability to manufacture AI chips at scale, and policymakers are debating whether any relaxation should be included in trade agreements.[3] [7]

At the same time, China has voiced concerns over the safety and quality of Nvidia's H20 chips, developed for the Chinese market after previous U.S. restrictions, alleging potential security risks such as hardware "backdoors".[8] [2]

Negotiations remain ongoing, with no immediate comment from either the U.S. or Chinese governments. The export controls have had mixed effects: they limit Chinese advancement in AI while also reducing U.S. companies' access to China's large semiconductor market, though it remains a key revenue source for American chipmakers.[4] [1] [2]

1. https://www.dailysabah.com/business/tech/china-wants-us-to-ease-ai-chip-export-controls-for-trade-deal
2. https://www.innovationaus.com/china-wants-us-to-relax-ai-chip-export-controls-for-trade-deal/
3. https://newsukraine.rbc.ua/news/china-seeks-to-ease-us-export-controls-on-1754821007.html
4. https://www.news18.com/world/china-wants-us-to-soften-ai-chip-export-rules-to-seal-trade-deal-report-ws-l-9496776.html
5. https://www.reuters.com/world/china/china-wants-us-relax-chip-export-controls-part-trade-deal-ft-reports-2025-08-10/
6. https://www.ft.com/content/19442dba-c724-4825-9388-26219a12cb8a

7. https://www.reddit.com/r/hardware/comments/1mmdn87/china_wants_us_to_relax_export_controls_on_chips/
8. https://www.reuters.com/world/china/chinese-state-media-says-nvidia-h20-chips-not-safe-china-2025-08-10/